

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Advisory Action dated October 27, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicants greatly appreciate the allowance of claims 13-16 and 18-20 in the Advisory Action dated October 27, 2004.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner further asserted that the arguments presented in the Amendment dated September 21, 2004 were not persuasive because Yoshihara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,016) “clearly teach[es] all the limitations recited in the newly amended claim 1: a signal processing circuit (31) ... for directly controlling a luminance of each of the light sources [22] (see fig. 5).” Applicants respectfully disagree.

Specifically, Yoshihara et al. teaches at column 8, lines 41-45, “[t]he back light control circuit/driving power source 35 gives the driving voltage to the back light 22 in synchronization with the synchronous signal SYN which is given by the control signal generating circuit/image memory 31 so as to make the LED array 7 of the back light 22 emit light.” Further, at column 9, lines 7-11, Yoshihara et al. states “[a]s a result of the above-mentioned emission control of the back light 22 by the back light control circuit/driving power source 35... the above-mentioned displaying control method of a liquid crystal displaying apparatus... can be realized.”

In view of the actual teachings of Yoshihara et al., Applicants respectfully submit it can be readily understood that the back light control circuit/driving power source 35 directly controls the operation of the back light 22. Yoshihara et al. cannot, however, be reasonably interpreted as teaching or suggesting wherein the signal processing circuit 31, which is directly connected to the back light control circuit/driving power source 35, directly controls the back light 22, as asserted by the Examiner.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that Yoshihara et al. fails to teach, either expressly or inherently, at least the aforementioned element recited in claim 1.

Application No.: 09/988,650
RCE dated December 21, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.536.00-US

Reply to Advisory Action dated October 27, 2004 and final Office Action dated June 21, 2004

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: December 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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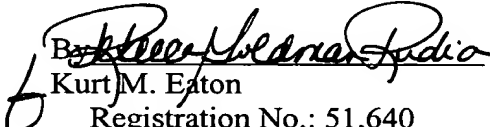
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